

Message Text

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44

ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 OIC-02 EB-07 COME-00 PA-02 PRS-01

USIA-15 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 RSC-01 L-02 OMB-01

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9324

INFO AMEMBASSY MEXICO

AMEMBASSY PANAMA

UNCLAS GENEVA 7089

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AORG OCON WTO

SUBJECT: IUOTO EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND LAUNCHING OF WORLD TOURISM ORGANIZATION

REF: A) STATE 248105; B) GENEVA 6860; C) GENEVA 6671; D) GENEVA 6969

1. ON SYG LONATI'S REQUEST, MISSION OFFICER CALLED AT WORLD TOURISM ORGANIZATION (WTO) ON NOV 20 AND WAS ASKED FOR USG CONCURRENCE IN FOLLOWING ENTIRELY NEW PROPOSAL TO BE MADE AT IUOTO EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING IN PANAMA CITY (DEC 9-14):

A. COMPLYING WITH UN LEGAL ADVICE, SYG WOULD ASK EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE TO "TAKE NOTE" OF ARTICLE 44 OF WTO STATUTES AND AGREE THAT IUOTO HENCEFORTH IS DISSOLVED AND ITS FUNCTIONS ARE TO BE CARRIED ON BY WTO FOR YEAR 1975 OR UNTIL ENTRY INTO FORCE OF FIRST PROGRAM AND BUDGET OF NEW WORLD TOURISM ORGANIZATION.

B. IUOTO MEMBERS WOULD CONTINUE TO PAY THEIR ASSESSMENTS IN 1975 TO WTO FOR PROGRAM SERVICES WHICH WERE VOTED BY 1973 IUOTO GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND WHICH WOULD BE CONTINUED BY NEW WTO AS PER ARTICLE 44.

C. PRESENT IUOTO STRUCTURE WOULD BE CARRIED ON BY WTO IN 1975 TO PROVIDE THESE SERVICES.

D. IUOTO PER SE, HOWEVER, WOULD TAKE NO FURTHER DECISIONS.

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2. ABOVE MEANS THAT SYG LONATI'S IUOTO DOCUMENT 407 WITH

TIMETABLE FOR TRANSITION RUNNING THROUGH 1975 IS DISCARDED TOTALLY. LONATI TOLD MISSION OFFICER HE PLANNED TO CONSULT WITH SWISS OFFICIALS ON NOV 21 ABOUT FINANCING, HOUSING FIRST WTO ASSEMBLY. LONATI SAID HE PLANS TO SEND OUT INVITATIONS TO MARCH, 1975 WTO ASSEMBLY AS SOON AS HE RETURNS FROM IUOTO EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE SESSION IN PANAMA CITY, OR AROUND DECEMBER 15.

3. HE WILL SEND OUT PROPOSED BUDGET OF NEW WTO ALONG WITH FULL AGENDA OF FIRST ASSEMBLY. THE ASSEMBLY ITSELF WILL DETERMINE WHETHER IT WILL ATTEMPT TO COMPLETE ITS WORK IN TWO SESSIONS OR IN ONE REGULAR SESSION AND ONE EXTRAORDINARY SESSION, THE FIRST BEING HELD IN GENEVA AS PER THE STATUTES AND THE SECOND POSSIBLE IN MEXICO CITY.

4. LONATI SAID THAT WHEN HE WAS IN MEXICO CITY LAST WEEK, THE MEXICAN GOVERNMENT INVITED HIM TO HOLD FIRST ASSEMBLY IN MEXICO CITY AND WAS TOLD THAT THE AMERICANS WERE "OPEN" TO THE SUGGESTION. MISSION OFFICER COMMENTED THAT US POSITION WAS THAT FIRST WTO ASSEMBLY SHOULD BE HELD IN GENEVA, BUT THAT USG WAS OPEN ABOUT LOCATION OF PERMANENT HEADQUARTERS OF WTO RECOGNIZING THAT WTO ASSEMBLY ALONE WOULD DECIDE ON THIS MATTER. FYI. MEXICAN FOREIGN MINISTRY SYG CURRENTLY IN GENEVA DRUMMING UP SUPPORT FOR MEXICO CITY AS SITE OF FIRST WTO ASSEMBLY.

5. ASKED ABOUT LENGTH OF FIRST ASSEMBLY SESSION IN MARCH, LONATI AGREED THAT TWO WEEKS WOULD BE MINIMUM TIME REQUIRED, NOTING THAT IN ADDITION TO THE AGENDA ON WHICH THERE IS AGREEMENT, TIME WOULD HAVE TO BE ALLOWED FOR INEVITABLE POLITICAL QUESTIONS SUCH AS CHINA CREDENTIALS, MIDDLE EAST AND CYPRUS ISSUES, GENERAL POLICY STATEMENTS, ETC. COMMENT: ONLY VERY TOUGH CHAIRING WILL ENABLE FIRST ASSEMBLY TO COMPLETE ITS WORK ON ESSENTIAL AGENDA ITEMS (LUSAKA FORMULA, NO TC FUNDS, ETC.) WITHIN THE TIME ALLOTTED.

6. LONATI REMAINS ADAMANT THAT NO ARTICLE 42 MEMBER IS ELIGIBLE TO RUN FOR ELECTION TO WTO COUNCIL. HE REJECTED PROPOSED "DECLARATION OF INTENTION" (REF D) AS UNACCEPTABLE TO LDCS AND AS HAVING NO LEGALLY BINDING CHARACTER.

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7. LONATI SAID HE WOULD APPRECIATE US SUGGESTION ON HOW TO HANDLE CHINA REPRESENTATION ISSUE. HE SAID HE FELT THE FIRST ASSEMBLY'S CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE WOULD PROBABLY HANDLE IT, REJECTING THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA CREDENTIALS.

8. PROBLEM OF ASSOCIATE AND AFFILIATE MEMBERS OF WTO WOULD BE SUBJECT OF FUTURE DISCUSSIONS WITH MISSION OFFICER, LONATI SAID.

9. REVIEWING PROSPECTS FOR THE NEW WTO IN 1975, LONATI SAID THAT AS OF NOV 20 WTO HAD 60 FULL MEMBERS (MALAWI BEING ADDED TO LIST FORWARDED DEPT IN REF C) AND 16 MEMBERS UNDER ARTICLE 42. 28 IUOTO MEMBERS, INCLUDING US, HAVE SENT IN NO OFFICIAL INDICATION OF THEIR POSITION RE NEW WTO. WITH AT LEAST 76 MEMBERS, WTO WOULD HAVE POTENTIAL ASSESSMENT INCOME OF 1,602,000 SWISS FRANCS FOR YEAR (AROUND \$572,000 AT EXCHANGE RATE OF 2.80 SF EQUALS \$1.00). HOWEVER, 20 PERCENT OF DUES PAYABLE ARE NOT PAID HE SAID, ACCORDINGLY HE WOULD HAVE JUST OVER \$485,000 TO WORK WITH DURING CY 1975. TO CARRY ON HE WILL THEREFORE HAVE TO ECONOMIZE IN ALL OPERATIONS BUT WOULD STILL HOPE TO BE ABLE TO MAINTAIN MINIMUM PROGRAM OF PUBLICATIONS, INFORMATION, JOINT MEETING WITH IATA AND SEMINARS.

10. LONATI SAID HE PLANNED TO SEND OUT PROPOSED WTO BUDGET FOR 1976-77 TO ALL MEMBERS INVITED TO FIRST WTO ASSEMBLY. HE TOOK UNDER ADVISEMENT SUGGESTION THAT HE ALSO CONVENE FIRST COUNCIL MEETING IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING CLOSE OF FIRST ASSEMBLY. HE FELT THAT SENDING OUT BUDGET NOW COULD BE CONSTRUED TO COMPLY WITH ADVANCE NOTICE REQUIRED BY STATUTORY FINANCIAL RULES BEFORE COUNCIL CAN ACT ON BUDGET.

11. FINALLY SYG ASKED USG ASSISTANCE IN OBTAINING UN STATISTICS ON MEMBER STATES' GNP, PER CAPITA INCOME, ETC., SO THAT HE CAN IMPLEMENT LUSAKA ASSESSMENT FORMULA AS PRESCRIBED. HE SAID HE WAS UNABLE TO GET THIS PRIVILEGED INFORMATION FROM GENEVA UN SOURCES WHO HAD REFERRED HIM TO UN STATISTICAL YEARBOOK, WHICH

12. GUIDANCE REQUESTED BY DEC 2 ON: A) LONATI'S PROPOSAL IN PARA 1 AND HIS REQUEST IN PARA 11 OF THIS MESSAGE;
B) SUGGESTION THAT SECOND SESSION OF WTO ASSEMBLY BE CLASSIFIED AS EXTRAORDINARY AND HELD IN MEXICO CITY;
C) WHETHER ARTICLE 24 MEMBER IS ELIGIBLE TO RUN FOR COUNCIL;
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D) WHEN US PLANS TO INFORM SYG IT WILL UTILIZE ARTICLE 42 FOR MEMBERSHIP.DALE

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